

PRINCIPLES OF TRANSDUCER DEVICES AND COMPONENTS

Edited by

Sheroz Khan, International Islamic University Malaysia

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IIUM PRESS

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Published by:
IIUM Press
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2011
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Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Sheroz Khan, Jalal Chebil & Othman Khalifa: Principles of Transducer
Devices and Components

ISBN: 978-967-418-172-7

Member of Majlis Penerbitan Ilmiah Malaysia – MAPIM
(Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council)

Printed By:
IIUM PRINTING SDN.BHD.
No. 1, Jalan Industri Batu Caves 1/3
Taman Perindustrian Batu Caves
Batu Caves Centre Point
68100 Batu Caves
Selangor Darul Ehsan
Tel: +603-6188 1542 / 44 / 45 Fax: +603-6188 1543
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Chapter 13

THE PRINCIPLE OF RESISTIVE SENSING

ATIKA ARSHAD, RUMANA TASNIM, SHEROZ KHAN, AHM ZAHIRUL ALAM

13.0 INTRODUCTION

A resistive sensor is a device that is able to sense any change occurred in the parameter of interest due to the change in resistance. Resistive displacement transducer is one of the mostly used transducers. It uses a resistive element with a sliding contact attached to the object the position of which is being monitored.

13.1 RESISTANCE (R), MEASURED IN OHMS (Ω)

Resistance is derived from the property of a material due which it opposes the flow of current. As current is the result of the flow of electrons through the material of a conductor, that is why, resistance in fact comes from the friction of electrons are experiencing while moving through the stationary ionic nuclei.

13.2 RESISTIVITY (ρ), MEASURED IN OHM-METER ($\Omega\text{-m}$)

The electrical resistance of a wire of length l , cross-sectional area A is given by

$$R = \rho \frac{l}{A} \quad (13.1)$$

Where ρ is called the resistivity of the material of which the conductor is made, given in Ohm-meter. Some materials with their resistivity values are given in Table 13.1.